



Maine Conservation Voters

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Testimony of Maine Conservation Voters
“An Act to Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act”
Before the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee:

My name is Nick Janzen, Director of Policy and Partnerships at Maine Conservation Voters (MCV). MCV is a statewide non-profit organization with 13,000 members and supporters building a just, thriving future for all by acting on the climate crisis, protecting the environment, and safeguarding our democracy. We support measures to make Maine’s democratic institutions more accessible, efficient and secure.

We strongly support LD 1787, “An Act to Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act.” This bill takes three important steps to improve the program by (1) expanding Clean Elections to cover District Attorney, Sheriff, and County Commissioner races; (2) raising the contribution limit for seed money for gubernatorial candidates; and (3) increasing the statutory funding for the Clean Elections Fund.

Public financing for elections enables candidates from a wide range of backgrounds to run for office and serve the public. It's an elegant, equitable solution that ensures broad based support for public officials and increases confidence in government. And in light of federal law, it's the single best tool the State has to curb the ills caused by money in politics.

MCV urges you to vote “ought to pass” on LD 1787.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Janzen, Esq.
Director of Policy and Partnerships
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